



## GORSE HALL PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

### Homework Policy

#### Rationale

At Gorse Hall we aim to provide an environment in which teachers and parents support each other in developing the social, moral, academic, physical and spiritual development of the children in our care. We strive to embed long term knowledge and believe that homework is an important element in achieving this and that it extends the opportunities and challenges open to pupils of all ages, so raising their standard of achievement.

#### Aims

1. Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school
2. Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework
3. Develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and involve them in their child's learning
4. Give pupils further practice and deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day
5. Utilise the resources for learning in the home and community
6. Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment
7. Extend school learning, as in additional reading and research
8. Encourage pupils, as they get older, to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own to become "Life Long Learners"

#### Responsibilities

##### Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body

- Frequently check compliance of the policy
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy every year
- Review the policy every year and make appropriate updates as required
- Support parents with information about homework
- Inform new parents about the Homework Policy

##### Role of the Teacher

- Ensure all pupils understand what they have to do
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum
- Set homework that is appropriate to the child's ability
- Monitor homework regularly and make sure pupils are completing it
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework
- Be available for discussion if necessary to parents and pupils about homework
- Set homework that is consistent across classes
- Ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete homework

## Role of Parents/Carers

- Support their child in completing homework and encourage daily reading
- Become involved in their child's homework and encourage their child to have a positive attitude towards it
- Make sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework
- Praise their child and celebrate achievements with regard to their homework
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution
- Keep the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and homework
- Encourage your child to discuss homework with you, including feedback from teachers
- **PRIORITISE** reading and homework over screentime

## Role of Pupils

- Take responsibility for their own learning and submit completed work in a timely manner
- Have a positive approach towards homework
- Put the same effort into homework as would be expected of class work
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required
- Ensure that they have everything they need to complete homework and return to school all books/stationery needed to complete their homework
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to a high personal standard

Stage	Typical amount of time	Typical tasks
Nursery/ Reception	A short session of enjoyable quality time with your child every day	Some homework will be set via the SeeSaw app. Reading books sent weekly to be shared at home. Sing songs and rhymes. Play games. Talk with your child about their work. Reception: Weekly phonics sounds and words (sent via Seesaw ) to be practised at home.
Years 1 and 2	<b>15-30 minutes per week.</b> Homework is set on Friday and in for the following Wednesday.	<b>Weekly/Daily Reading Book, plus one other either English/maths or topic related task.</b>
Years 3 and 4	<b>30-60 minutes per week</b> Homework is set on Friday and in for the following Wednesday.	<b>Regular reading of a home or school book (or magazine/comic etc.)</b> <b>One piece of English and one piece of maths, plus weekly spellings.</b> Sometimes research pieces or tasks linked to other topic areas.
Years 5 and 6	<b>Approx 1 hour per week</b> Y5 homework set on Friday and in for the following Wednesday. Y6 homework set on Wednesday and in for Monday.	<b>Regular reading of a home or school book (or magazine/comic etc.)</b> <b>One piece of English and one piece of maths, plus weekly spellings.</b> Sometimes research pieces or tasks linked to other topic areas.

## **Feedback**

Feedback in school may take a variety of forms depending on the age of the child and the task set. Pupils may be involved in marking their own work (or a partner's work) alongside the teacher, when this is appropriate. At other times, feedback may be given during class work, for example in a class discussion, or through tables or spelling tests. Some pieces may involve written marking from the teacher. When homework is of a more open-ended nature, such as research for topic work in history or geography, pupils will sometimes be asked to review their own work in small groups or prepare a presentation. Good work may be rewarded with one of the following awards: certificates, stamps, stickers and stars. Teachers may not mark homework that is handed in late.

## **Pupils who fail to complete homework**

All pupils are expected to complete homework on time. Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which will be regularly checked. If pupils consistently fail to complete homework, teachers will contact parents to find out why and their child may be asked to complete their homework during break, lunchtime or Golden Time.

## **Absences**

If the child is absent from school due to short term illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods as pupils should not be well enough to undertake work. In some cases, there may be exceptions to this rule and the school has the right to decide whether this is acceptable or not.

If the child is absent for a long period of time, e.g. with a broken arm, the teacher and the parent of the child will agree on what should be done and how much help should be given to the child.

**This Policy has been reviewed March 2024**